

## REMARKS

### I. ELECTION/RESTRICTION

The Examiner asserted that the originally filed claims are subject restriction pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372 and thus require an election of an invention to be examined.

Applicant is required to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted:

Group I, claims 1-15, drawn to a product.

Group II, claims 24 and 26, drawn to a method of manufacturing a product.

Although applicants do not necessarily agree that restriction/election is required in this case, applicants nevertheless elect, without traverse, to pursue the invention in Group I, claims 1-15, drawn to a product. Accordingly, applicants elect to withdraw claims 24 and 26 from consideration. Applicants retain the right to file divisional applications to the unelected claims.

In addition to the restriction requirement, the patent Office further requires a species election:

For the invention of Group I, the species are as follows:

- Wax phase component (claims 5-7 and 9-11)
- Polymer (claim 14)

Applicants elect to pursue the invention in claims 5-7 and 9-11, drawn to the wax phase component.

Applicants will cancel any withdrawn claims upon indication of allowance of the remaining claims by the Examiner.

## **II. CONCLUSION**

Examination on the merits is respectfully requested. An early and favorable response is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

/James P. Barr/

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James P. Barr  
Reg. No. 32,882  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Johnson & Johnson  
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza  
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003  
(732) 524-2826  
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